

Intimations.

DAKIN BROS. OF CHINA, LIMITED, DISPENSING CHEMISTS.

DAKIN'S EFFERVESCENT SALINE POWDER.

Is cooling, refreshing, and invigorating. It relieves all stomach derangements. It relieves headache and sickness. It allays febrile symptoms. It quenches thirst.

75 cents per Bottle.
DAKIN'S JODIZED EXTRACT OF SASSAPARILLA.
Purifies the Blood. Removes Skin Eruptions. Strengthens the System.
Is of special benefit to those suffering from the Enervating Effects of the climate.
\$1.50 per Bottle.

DAKIN'S VIN DE QUINQUINA.
This Wine will be found of great value as a Tonic in all cases where the system is depressed or where there is the slightest tendency to Malaria or Climatic Debility.

It is prepared from the true Bark in combination with our Finest Port Wine, and is an admirable form of administering at the same time the appetizing properties of the Bark with the strengthening qualities of the Port.
Price, \$1.50 per Bottle.

(Telephone No. 60.)

Nos. 22 & 24, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, Hongkong, 30th June, 1890.

WINES AND SPIRITS.



BY APPOINTMENT.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD. (ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.) HONGKONG.

WE invite attention to the following old landed Brands, all of which are of excellent quality and good value for the money. The same being specially selected by our London House, and bought direct from the most noted Shippers, are imported in wood and bottled by ourselves, thus enabling us to supply the best growths at moderate prices.

In ordering it is only necessary to state the name and quantity of Wine or Spirit wanted, and initial letter for quality desired.

Orders through Local Post or by Telegram receive prompt attention.

PORTS. (For Invalids and general use.)

	Per Case.	Per Bot.
A Alto Douro, good quality, Green Capsule.....	\$10	\$1.00
B Vintage, Superior quality, Red Capsules.....	12	1.10
C Fine Old Vintage, superior quality, Black Seal Capsule.....	14	1.25
D Very Fine Old Vintage, extra superior, Violet Capsule (Old Bottled).....	18	1.50

SHERRIES.

A Delicate Pale Dry, dinner wine, Green Capsule.....	6	0.60
B Superior Pale Dry, dinner wine, Green Seal Capsule.....	7.50	0.75
C Manzanilla, Pale Natural Sherry, White Capsule.....	10	1.00
CC Superior Old Dry, Pale Natural Sherry, Red Seal Capsule.....	10	1.00
D Very Superior Old Pale Dry, White Seal Capsule.....	10	1.00
E Extra Superior Old Pale Dry, very finest quality, Black Seal Capsule (Old Bottled).....	14	1.52

CLARETS.

A Superior Breakfast Claret, Red Capsule.....	\$4	\$4.50
B St. Estephe, Red Capsule.....	4.50	5.00
C St. Julien.....	7	7.50
D La Rose.....	11	12.00

BRANDY.

A Hennessy's Old Pale, Red Capsule.....	\$12	\$1.10
B Superior Very Old Cognac, Red Capsule.....	14	1.25
C Very Old Liqueur Cognac, Red Capsule.....	18	1.50
D Hennessy's Finest Very Old Liqueur Cognac, 1872 Vintage, Red Capsule.....	24	2.00

SCOTCH WHISKY.

A Thorne's Blend, White Capsule.....	8	0.75
B Watson's Glenorchy Mellow Blend, Blue Capsule.....	8	0.75
C Watson's Aboulo-Glenorchy Blend, Red Capsule.....	8	0.75
D Watson's H & D Blend of the Finest Scotch Malt Whiskies, Violet Capsule.....	10	1.00
E Watson's Very Old Liqueur Scotch Whisky, Gold Capsule.....	12	1.10

IRISH WHISKY.

A John Jameson's Old, Green Capsule.....	8	0.75
B John Jameson's Fine Old, Green Capsule.....	10	1.00
C John Jameson's Very Fine Old, Green Capsule.....	12	1.10
D GENUINE BOURBON WHISKY, Gold Seal, Red Capsule, with Name.....	10	1.00

GIN.

A Fine Old Tom, White Capsule.....	4.50	0.40
B Fine Unsweetened, White Capsule.....	4.50	0.40
C Fine A. V. H. Geneva.....	5.25	0.50

RUM.

Finest Old Jamaica, Violet Capsule.....	12	1.00
Good Lecward Island.....	\$1.50	per Gallon.

LIQUEURS.

Benedictine	Maraschino
Curaçao	Herring's Cherry Cordial
Chartreuse	Dr. Slegert's Angostura Bitters, &c.

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, THURSDAY, JULY 17, 1890.

TELEGRAMS.

THE SILVER BILL.

LONDON, July 14th.
President Harrison has approved of the Silver Bill.

July 15th.
The Silver Bill takes effect from August 15th.

THE TYPHOON.

Dr. Doherty states in his Weather Report to-day:—"There is a typhoon to the East of Formosa. The barometer has fallen in South-eastern China, and gradations are very moderate for N.W. winds."

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

H.M.S. sloop *Mutine* arrived to-day from the North.

There will be a game of Polo at Causeway Bay, at 5.30 p.m., to-morrow.

At the Sessions to-morrow there are only two cases besides that of Barradas.

We hear that Mr. G. French has been appointed Chief Officer of the C. N. Co.'s Australian liner *Chinglu*.

The Superintendent of the P. & O. S. N. Co. informs us that the Company's steamer *Ancona* left Nagasaki for this port at 6 p.m. yesterday.

"MEMBER'S" letter re the so-called representation of the Golf Club in antagonism to the prospective Athletic Club came too late for insertion to-day.

We are informed by the agents of the Austro-Hungarian Lloyd's S. N. Co. that the Company's steamer *Milpome* left Singapore to-day for this port, and is expected to arrive on the 22nd inst.

The meeting of the member of the Hongkong Athletic Association, that was to be held in the Hongkong Hotel to-morrow afternoon, has been postponed. Particulars are given in the advertisement.

We learn that the directors of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, at the meeting this afternoon, authorised a dividend of fifty shillings per share. In February they paid a dividend of 30s. at 3/4d. Hoorary for the far-seeing Jackson!

We are informed by the Agents (Messrs. Arnold, Karberg & Co.) that the China Shippers' Mutual S. N. Co.'s steamer *Pingsuey*, from Glasgow and Liverpool, left Singapore for this port yesterday, and may be expected on or about the 22nd inst.

We learn that Captain Fred. Wallace, formerly commander of the Canadian Pacific steamer *Parthia*, is leaving for England in a short time to take command of that Company's first new steamer, which is expected to be ready for sea in the early part of November.

It has been proposed to hold a Sky Race Meeting, under the auspices of the Hongkong Polo Club, at the end of August or beginning of September. As there are plenty available ponies in the colony, no difficulty ought to be experienced in getting up an afternoon's capital sport.

At the Legislative Council on Monday, the Orders of the Day will be:—

1. Financial Minutes.
2. Report of the Finance Committee.
3. Third reading of the Bill entitled "An Ordinance to amend the Law relating to Fraudulent Marks on Merchandise."
4. Third reading of "The Waterworks Bill 1890."

NINE months with hard labour, and two whippings of twenty-five strokes each, was the sentence passed by Mr. Woodhouse this morning at the Police Court upon still another ear-ring snatcher, who "lifted" a lady's twenty dollar earring appendages in Queen's Road Central yesterday evening, and pleaded justification upon the ground that he "no have got chow." The scamp has got plenty of "bamboo chow" by this time.

At last a much-needed ambulance corps, under the style of the St. John's (Police) Ambulance Society, has been formed under the presidency of Major-General Gordon, with Dr. Canalis as Lecturer. The Committee comprises Inspectors Matheson, Standen, Perry, and Swanton; Sergeant Bullin and Messrs. H. Smith, J. Gauld, Wilkes and W. McCracken—police constables. Lectures are to be delivered once a week at the Central Station.

CARDS announcing important domestic re-adjustments are now issued in Chicago after the following pattern:—

Mr. J. Philip McGinn
Announces his divorce from
Mrs. J. Philip McGinn
(Née Gladys Gibboly),
Saturday, April 13, 1890.
Chicago.

Judge Sheppard, Grounds statutory.

THAT have queer ways in Siam. The royal visitors here had to reflect whether what they did would be regarded as orthodox at home or not. Now the *Siam Gazette*, in mentioning the case of the Siamese Government *vs. Siam Mercantile Bank*, but will come on for hearing at the Imperial German Consular Court on Tuesday next at 9 a.m. adds that today (thinks) at 10 a.m. the Siamese witnesses in this case will take the "Oath" in the Siamese temple which is situated behind the German Legation.

LAST night an attack was made upon a Chinaman's house at British Kowloon just within about 500 yards of the frontier. They were all armed with revolvers and swords and their faces were blackened with charcoal. The object of the attack was the seizure of some \$5,000, which, fortunately for the old gentleman, he had paid into a Chinese bank that very day. The ruffians therefore contented themselves with "clearing the decks" generally every-thing portable, and then retreated into Chinese territory. Detective Inspector Stanton and Detective Sergeant McEiver are "on" the case and will, if it be possible, run the daring robbers to earth.

We read in the *Peking Gazette* that Chang Shan, the Military Deputy Lieutenant-Governor at Chinchow in the Manchurian province of Shengking, who is also charged with the general superintendence over the Government reserves and pastures along the banks of the Tailing river, reports that in the early part of November last the Chao Uda League of Mongolia sent in their usual tribute offering of 1,000 horses, which were placed with the Government droves in the above-named reserves. A similar number should have been forwarded at the same time by the Cho-so-fu League, but as the animals were in poor condition and there was no fresh grass to be obtained on the way so late in the year, it was proposed to keep them back till the ensuing spring. The officers in charge of the Tailing pastures have, however, represented to memorialise that the droves of Government horses there have so increased of late years by breeding and by purchase, that they now number 12,084 head, and that owing to the narrow extent of the reserves there is not sufficient pasturage for any additional number of animals. Under these circumstances memorialist proposes that the 1,000 horses in question, which have not yet arrived, should be sent on to the pasture ground in the neighbourhood of Kaigan instead.

Sanctioned by reitript.

WHILE the steamship *Changsha*, en route to Sydney and Melbourne, was at Townsville, the ladies of Hudson's Surprise Party, who were passengers on board, amused themselves by fishing. During this recreation one of them lost a diamond ring worth £20, which slipped off her finger and fell overboard.

DR. DE MEDEIROS, Bishop of Macao, returned to the Holy City on Tuesday last, after having been absent in Timor, Malacca, the Straits Settlements, etc., for upwards of a year. The Bishop, on arriving at Hongkong by the French mail, went quietly to the Spanish Consulate, instead of to the Portuguese Consulate, being desirous of avoiding any fuss and ceremonial on reaching Macao. His departure by the *Hungshan*, however, was wired to Macao by Consul-General Romano, with the result that on that steamer's arrival the San Francisco fort fired a salute, greatly to the annoyance of Dr. Medeiros, who had specially requested Capt. Clarke not to fly the usual flags or give any other indication that he was on board. His lordship was received by nearly the whole of the Portuguese community at the wharf and appeared to be very glad when the ceremonial was over, and he was permitted to proceed to his residence.

We learn that on Monday evening, at a farewell dinner given at the Peak Hotel to Major Fletcher, R.A., by the members of the Polo Club, he was presented with a silver salver, bearing the inscription:—

TO
MAJOR WALTER B. FLETCHER, R.A.,
IN ACKNOWLEDGMENT
OF
HIS ENERGY AND TACT
AS
FOUNDER AND HONORARY SECRETARY
OF
THE HONGKONG POLO CLUB.
FROM
THE MEMBERS.
HONGKONG, 14TH JULY, 1890.

THUS a Chinese contemporary:—We reported a few days ago that the people of Wuchang created a disturbance in consequence of the Viceroy Chang Chih-tung wishing to take down some bridges in order to facilitate the passage of boats laden with machinery he was transporting to some new factories. We are assured now that the difficulty has been overcome in a manner satisfactory to all parties concerned.

When the officials who were roughly used in the *fracas* came with their complaint to H.E. he delivered some remarks to the following effect:—"I am very sorry for you, officers and magistrates, who were resisted, insulted and abused by the people, when trying to execute your duty in accordance with my order. I am sorry for the treatment you received, for I know now that I overrated the confidence the people have in me and you, and I am afraid I have done wrong in trying to take the bridges down without first getting the people's consent. I am sorry for the people, who are prejudiced in future, though my intentions in doing what I did were solely for the benefit of the people and the country. Out of the compassion I feel for the people, who acted only in ignorance of my real motives, none of them shall be punished for their treatment of you, reprehensible though I admit it to have been." So the injured officials were sent away in bewilderment, and when the Viceroy's decision was made known to the people, they were overjoyed at his magnanimity. A general meeting was held in the afternoon at which several prominent persons spoke, extolling the forbearance of the Viceroy, and recounting his services to the province. Amongst other things they dwelt on the way he saved the district from floods, threw open the Government granaries to the starving people, reduced the pawn-broker's rate of interest and raised the tax on opium, so that the people might be induced to give up the consumption of the drug so injurious to their health and well-being. It was he who built factories to employ the unemployed, and the people. After all those services, and the elders of the place, the Viceroy might be allowed to have his way in this trifling matter, and putting aside all obligations on the part of the people, the Viceroy could easily punish them for disobeying his orders, and this he has not done. These speeches created a salutary effect on the minds of the people and at the termination of the meeting several young men rushed off and tore down the bridge amid general acclamations. They then invited the boats to pass along, and accommodated them at the place with a temporary arrangement of planks. There is now perfect tranquillity between the people and officials, and all's well that ends well.

At the half yearly meeting of the P & O. Company, held on the 10th inst., the chairman, Mr. Sutherland M.R., referred to the repayment of a portion of the capital, said:—"I am not likely to refer to this matter again at any time or at any length, but perhaps before I pass finally from the subject I may be pardoned for contrasting your financial position with the financial position which the Company occupied in the public estimation a few years ago. I do not for the purpose of producing this contrast go back to those old times when upon the opening of the Suez Canal our affairs were in a somewhat serious state of embarrassment, and our paid up share were then at a market price little exceeding £20. I do not go back to that time, but I go back to 1879, and I find our old shares at 15s. and I find that those Shareholders who were fortunate enough to purchase their interest in the Company to years ago have exactly doubled the value of their capital in their holding in this Company, not counting the interest which they have been paid in the shape of dividends in the meantime, which interest, seeing that our average dividend has been 10 per cent. during the period, must have been in the case of those fortunate Shareholders, between 8 and 9 per cent. Gentlemen, I mention this simply in order to close my observations upon this new departure which we have taken with regard to your capital account, a departure which I believe will prove to be even more for your interest in the future than it is at present. I do not claim that the result is either wonderful or exceptional, but at the same time I feel bound to say that if none of us had invested in anything worse than P & O. shares during the last few years our condition would not require much pity or commiseration."

He then referred to the interim dividend proposed, at the rate of 5 per cent. on preferred and 7 per cent. on deferred stock, and expressed the hope that it would be many years before they were required to hesitate as to the payment of the interim dividend upon the basis then announced. Upon the silver question he said:—"Whether or not the advance in silver will be a disturbing factor to the Company's business is a question which I can only guess at the result, but," he proceeded, "while it is my opinion that undoubtedly a considerable advance in the price of silver will tend to operate against exports from the East, until matters are again in a settled channel, on the other hand, it will have the effect of improving exports from this side. But inasmuch as so great a part of our revenue is obtained in silver, both in freight and passage money, I look forward with confidence to an improvement in the value of silver being upon the whole advantageous to the operations of this Company."

THE Russian Volunteer steamer *Maskwa* arrived at Singapore on the 10th inst., from Vladivostok. Capt. Radloff during his stay conferred with the managers of the Siberian Syndicate upon the company's future operations.

THE Peking Gazette of June 10th states that, on impeachment by the Governor of Kuangsi, two district Magistrates and two military officers are cashiered for avarice, carelessness, stupidity and other shortcomings, whilst ten district officials who have been commended by the Governor are rewarded by the expression of His Majesty's approval, and are exalted to a further continuance in well-doing.

SUPREME COURT.
IN APPELLATE JURISDICTION.
(Before the Full Court.)

Ex Parte APPLICATION.
Mr. A. J. Leach (instructed by Mr. Roddy) applied for writs in the case of *Chan Kin Chun v. F. F. Webb*, for a rule nisi, calling on the plaintiff to show cause why the order of the Court, dated the 14th inst., should not be set aside or reversed. He also asked leave to add the alternative "or why it should not be stayed until the return of the writ by Mr. Fraser-Smith has been investigated by the Court of Civil Procedure."

The Acting Chief Justice admitted the amendment.
Mr. Leach said that on the evidence brought before his lordship in chambers recently in support of the application for leave to sell the defendant's library and furniture an order was granted, and a prohibitory notice served on Mr. Fraser-Smith, in whose possession the goods then were. The circumstances of the case, as far as the evidence produced in support of the application went, was that on the 10th May 1889 Mr. Fraser-Smith lent Webb \$2000. Webb gave him a receipt, which, Mr. Leach intended that the books should form security for the loan. The order given by his lordship in chambers was not contested on the grounds then shown, but on other grounds. He (Mr. Leach) was content to take it that the receipt was in the nature of a bill of sale.

The Acting Chief Justice—I have seen the further affidavit; if it had been produced in chambers I should have ordered an investigation.

Mr. Leach—Then perhaps your lordships will see your way to giving me an order nisi.

The Acting Chief Justice—You will have to pay the costs if there is fresh evidence.

Mr. Leach consented.
His lordship—Upon the affidavit shewn to me in the first instance it appeared to me that it was in the nature of a bill of sale.

Mr. Leach—It was doubtful whether Mr. Fraser-Smith took possession under that receipt or not.

His lordship agreed that it was possible that a case might be sustained.

Mr. Leach asked that execution might be stayed pending the investigation, to which Mr. Fraser-Smith was present on behalf of the plaintiff, consented.

Their lordships accordingly granted a rule nisi, with stay of execution.

ANOTHER EXTRADITION CASE.

Leung Ki Po, for whose extradition the Chinese Government have applied, on the grounds of burglary, murder, and kidnapping in Chinese territory, was again before Mr. Robinson at the Police Court this morning. Mr. Caldwell, of Messrs. Caldwell and Wilkinson, appeared for the prosecution, and Mr. Philippo (instructed by Mr. Roddy) was for the defence.

Before bringing the prisoner into the dock his Worship questioned the three witnesses for the prosecution, who stated that they knew the prisoner well by sight and could easily identify him, not by any distinctive marks but from their knowledge of his general appearance. This preliminary examination of the witnesses being completed, his Worship, accompanied by Messrs. Philippo, Caldwell, Roddy, Arthur, the "Press," Inspectors of Police, Detectives, and Gaol Warders, repaired to H. M. Gaol to witness the identification of the prisoner by the witnesses severally, which was done to his Worship's satisfaction, and the prisoner was then placed in the dock.

His Worship then requested the Chinese clerk to interpret to prisoner the charges preferred against him.

Mr. Caldwell objected to the charges being made only in Chinese, and desired that they should be delivered in plain English also, in order that he might know what the specific crimes were that the prisoner was formally charged with.

His Worship agreed to this, and the clerk then said that the prisoner was charged with committing a murder on the 17th of May last in the Pao-tai village in the province of Kwangtung; a second charge of burglary and theft of 200 taels in the said village at the house of two of the villagers, and thirdly with kidnapping a child named Leung Kwan Fong, a native of the said village, on the 10th of May, 1890.

Mr. Philippo objected to the charges being made in an informal and, as he alleged, unusual manner, and requested his Worship to state whether or not the original information upon which the arrest had been made was considered as cancelled.

His Worship held that the original information was virtually correct, but decided to adjourn the case until next Saturday in order to give the prosecution time to formulate their charges and information in the usual style.

The case was then adjourned until Saturday.

CORRESPONDENCE.

(We do not necessarily endorse the opinions expressed by Correspondents in this column.)

THE RISE IN EXCHANGE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH."
SIR,—Can you tell me what advantage a high rate of exchange is to a man who does not remit? I fail to see that it makes any difference in the prices charged by the tradesmen of this place, for two years ago I paid 25 cents for a drink, and 50 for a case of whisky. Then the "Almighty" was only quoted at 2/11. An increase of 15 per cent. in value, which at home is considered a respectable profit, is thought nothing of here.

Yours, &c.,
Hongkong, July 17th, 1890.

FAIRPLAY.

THE NATURAL HISTORY OF A CHINESE GIRL.

(Continued.)

It is an ancient observation that one half the world does not know how the other half lives. It is quite possible to live among the Chinese for a long time without becoming practically acquainted with their modes of settling their difficulties to which their term of civilization makes them specially liable.

The best way to study phenomena of this sort is through concrete cases. A single instance, well considered in all its bearings, may be a window which will let in more light than a volume of abstract statements. Whoever is disposed to enter into such studies will find in

China the material ready to his hand, and it will not be strange if it is forced upon his attention, whether he desires to contemplate it or not, as he happens to be the writer in the following highly illustrative case. Many years ago, a Chinese teacher in the writer's employ had leave of absence for a definite period, but when that period had expired, he failed to make his appearance. This is so common, or rather so almost universal an occurrence in China, that it might have passed with but a temporary notice, but for the explanation which the teacher afterwards gave of his inability to return, an explanation which appeared to be so peculiar that he resorted to reduce it to the form of a written statement, of which the following is a synopsis.

An elder sister of the teacher was married to a very poor man in a village called the "Tower of the Li Family," an insignificant hamlet consisting of only four families. In a year of great famine (1878), both the sister and her husband died, leaving three sons, all married. Of these the second died, and his widow re-married. The eldest nephew of the teacher also died, and this nephew married for his second wife a widow, who had a daughter of her own, twelve years of age. This widow enjoyed the not very assuring reputation of having beaten her former mother-in-law, and also of having caused the death of her first husband. The wife of the third nephew was a quarrelsome woman, and the two sisters-in-law were always at sword's points, especially as all four of the adults and their four children shared the house and land together.

In the month of August of that year, the third nephew started for a distant market, with a boat-load of water-melons. On leaving, he ordered his wife to fetch his winter garments, which she refused to do, upon which they had a fight, and he left. The next day was cold and rainy. The elder nephew was sitting in a neighbour's house, and heard his wife engaged in a violent quarrel with her sister-in-law, but he did not even rise to look into the merits of the case, and no other neighbour intervened to exhort to peace.

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The family of the teacher, who were poor, had a daughter, who was married to a poor man, and she was the only one of the family who was not married. She was a very beautiful girl, and she was very kind and gentle. She was very much loved by her parents, and she was very much loved by her husband. She was very much loved by her husband, and she was very much loved by her parents.

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The family of the teacher, who were poor, had a daughter, who was married to a poor man, and she was the only one of the family who was not married. She was a very beautiful girl, and she was very kind and gentle. She was very much loved by her parents, and she was very much loved by her husband. She was very much loved by her husband, and she was very much loved by her parents.

guarding the house of the Lord-of-bitterness, to the Little Campers. The latter now altered their demands to a payment of eight hundred strings of cash, which by much chaffering was eventually reduced to four hundred. The Lord-of-bitterness offered two hundred and fifty strings, but this was rejected with disdain. Upon the failure of these numerous negotiations, the local constable presented another complaint to the magistrate, reciting the facts in the repeated refusal, on the part of the family of the woman, to pay any terms. The magistrate, recognizing the case as one in which the relatives were

head of all the Volunteers in India, was placed on general duty, and spent his time in travelling from place to place. It was at this period that he wrote a series of extraordinary letters in one of the newspapers, saying a trifle too frankly what he thought of all the private individuals he met, the lives they led, the way they dressed and what they said, the hospitality they did or did not dispense; and so on. Then he started off to Madagascar to help the Madagascars against the French. This was a trifle too much for the Government of India. He was stopped at Zanzibar and ordered back to this country at once. He next made a somewhat foolish attempt to reach Upper Burma from Chittagong, and after this last wild goose chase he went home for good, and from thence we have continued to hear from him from time to time in connection with the Balloon Society and the wrongs of the poor. General Brine in his younger days had a great love of the stage, and used to boast that he took an opera company over to Dublin for two or three seasons until the Duke of Cambridge "pulled him up." At the time of the Malta Expedition he hastened down to Bombay, and wanted Mr. Wilson, of Wilson's Circus, to join him in taking the Circus to Malta. Mr. Wilson declined on the very sensible plea that Colonel Brine did not look like a business man. He was originally a brilliant talker and always a kind-hearted man, and in spite of his old dislike to the Civil Service and other eccentric fads that grew upon him with advancing years. He was, while in India, the centre of many very pleasant myths. He always claimed the credit, and we think with some justice, of having introduced the post-office into India. Time after time he addressed the Postmaster General on the subject, and was eventually told to mind his own business. This put him on his mettle. He had his own post-cards printed. They were identical with the post-cards then in use at home, except that in the space where the stamp ought to be there was printed in small type "here affix a half anna stamp." These cards, a number of which were printed at our office, were distributed broadcast to clubs and institutions; Colonel Brine used them himself in his correspondence with the letter stamp and succeeded in proving that it was perfectly legal to write his letter on its cover if he chose. Shortly afterwards the quarter anna post card was introduced, and Colonel Brine was of course, vastly delighted. "Fred Brine's post cards" are now among the most precious possessions of the Indian stamp collector.

CONCERNING EARTHQUAKES.

What causes the earthquake and the not less mysterious and terrible volcano? In them we have the highest manifestations of natural force, phenomena which excite and terrify the imagination and impress man with a sense of his utter feebleness. Through their agency cities have been destroyed, vast tracts of the earth's surface completely changed, and enormous numbers of human beings have lost their lives. The earthquake that occurred in Sicily in 1693 overthrew 34 cities and towns and 300 villages; of Catania and its 18,000 inhabitants not a trace remained, and it is computed that more than 100,000 lives were lost. The earthquake of Pekin in 1731 swallowed up 100,000 persons. About 25 years later, in the same century, occurred the great earthquake at Lisbon. In about eight minutes it is recorded, most of the houses were overthrown and large numbers of persons perished. One which occurred at Rhodes and Macri in 1851 caused a mountain to fall in, crushing a village and destroying 600 persons. In the same year, Meli, in South Italy, was almost laid in ruins, and 14,000 lives were lost. An earthquake occurred in Syria, Palestine, and Asia, in 1742, which destroyed 50 towns and occasioned a loss of life that surpassed calculation. It is computed that in the course of 75 years, from 1785 to 1860, the kingdom of Naples lost at least 11,000 inhabitants by the effects of earthquakes, or more than 100 to the square mile. In 1799 an earthquake occurred in Sicily, and that of 1800, and that more than 13,000,000 of the human race have been destroyed by earthquakes of which there is record. Even within the past few years there have been fearful losses of life by these earth convulsions, on the shores of the Mediterranean and nearer to this country, of more recent date, at Krakatoa. It was needless to attempt further enumeration. The terrible nature of these visitations is a constant reminder of the fact that they give no premonition of their coming, or none that is understood, have fled man with awe. As to the cause or origin of these phenomena various hypotheses have been put forward. When they have accomplished their mission of destruction and upheaval, people living in the neighbourhood of the convulsed earth have recalled to mind peculiar conditions of the atmosphere, among other accompaniments, irregularities in the seasons, sudden gusts of wind interrupted by dead calms, violent rains at unusual seasons, or in countries where such phenomena are almost unknown; a reddening of the sun's disc, and a haze in the air often continued for months; an evolution of electric matter or of inflammable gas from the soil, with sulphurous or mercurial vapours; noises underground like the rumbling of carriages or the discharge of artillery, or distant thunder; animals uttering cries of distress and exhibiting extraordinary alarm; a sensation like sea-sickness. These accompaniments were regarded as amongst the results of the operation of volcanic power which upheaved or occasioned the swallowing up of portions of the globe's crust. Indeed, Shakespeare may be said to have embodied all that was known regarding nature's mysterious workings, even up to a comparatively recent date, when he wrote:

effects in a paper published in *Harper's Magazine*. Increased knowledge will not lessen man's fear; but in proportion as nature is less mysterious, his mind will be freer from superstition.

Subterranean disturbances have been ascribed to oscillations in the molten interior of the earth, to its reaction upon the crust, to the cavernous structures of that crust, and to checks and assurances that admit the percolation of water down to the interior of the earth. By this means steam is generated and superheated, and a Titanic force created which nothing can imprison. Although subterranean disturbances may be the true cause of all great earthquakes and eruptions, there can be little doubt, Mr. Proctor thinks, that the occasion of those disturbances is often, if not always, to be sought outside the earth's crust. He doubts whether the process of contraction, which is going on all the time with greater or less activity, although generating enormous supplies of subterranean heat, might not, nevertheless, proceed without producing great subterranean disturbances were it not for external changes which intensify its action, sometimes resisting its effects, sometimes assisting them, and so making their disturbing energies much greater than they otherwise would be. He takes into consideration not alone the crust that has been formed over what is generally believed to be a molten interior and the thermal forces operating beneath the crust, but also the atmosphere that envelopes it. One of the most important properties of this atmosphere, as we all know, though we are accustomed to pay little heed to it, is its weight or pressure; and we also know that there are constant variations in this pressure. Now Mr. Proctor makes use of these important facts in laying down his hypothesis to account for the phenomena of earthquakes, and they are facts which have not before received that consideration from scientific men to which they are entitled. When we hear that the barometer has risen or sunk half an inch we do not commonly attach much importance to the change, yet it might modify the conditions of equilibrium as to bring about an earthquake. Let us follow Mr. Proctor in his calculation, the results of which are marvellous. He teaches us in an instructive and impressive way that violent subterranean action may be produced by causes that nothing but a refined observation could detect. When the barometer rises half an inch over an area of 10,000 square miles, the pressure on that area is increased by 4,000,000,000 lbs. If a wave of atmospheric pressure passed over the United States the barometer would be first half an inch lower than in the western half, and then half an inch higher, the effect would be as though a mass of about 700,000,000,000 tons were shifted from the western to the eastern half of the United States. Again, an increase of one inch in the height of the mercurial barometer corresponds to a weight of 650 pounds to each square foot, or about 85,200 tons on each square mile of surface. As we have said, this atmospheric or air pressure is variable, and it is easy to perceive that a constant variation or pressure over a wide area would produce a powerful effect on the earth's crust and affect its equilibrium. If the pressure were uniform at all times, the equilibrium would not be so liable to disturbance, or would only be subject to disturbance through those mechanical agencies operating beneath the crust. In times of great storm the mercury changes rapidly in height, and this as Mr. Proctor points out, corresponds to the addition or removal of many thousands of millions of tons to and from the areas of rising and falling barometers. These changes, and the incessant and though to the casual observer insignificant, their importance is realized after a little reflection; a condition of the atmosphere that is sufficient to maintain an equilibrium may be changed in an hour, and an earthquake or earthquake may result. As for the hurricanes and other atmospheric disturbances that have followed earthquakes, Mr. Proctor's theory is that, instead of the earthquakes producing them, it is far more likely that the hurricanes and earthquakes are alike produced by the same cause, the atmospheric depression which preceded the subterranean disturbances.

If the air can exercise so great mechanical force, what must be the effect of the sea with its ever-recurring tides and changes of level? And in considering this part of the question it is well to bear in mind that nearly all great subterranean disturbances take place close by, or at all events not very far from, the sea. The natural explanation of this is that the water, finding its way to the internal heat force, or incandescent centre, is changed by the heat into steam, which, becoming superheated under great pressure, assumes an expansive power which breaks through all barriers and finds vent in the volcano and earthquake. Conceding the point that the interior of the earth is an incandescent mass, we may consider for a moment how the water reaches this region of intense heat and an explanation is afforded, in part if not in whole, by the constantly changing pressure of the sea along the shores. If it is so, Mr. Proctor's calculation, which we have already produced, an enormous weight may be added to the submerged area of the earth's crust by a changing tide, or inflow and outflow. "Take a straight shore line 500 miles in length, and suppose that along this shore line a region of ocean 100 miles broad rises through a height of three feet, under the combined action of sun and moon raising a tidal wave, and favouring strong winds urging the water shoreward, then we have 50,000 square miles of sea water, in three feet deep, added to the weight of the earth's crust. This is a weight which undresses the sea along that shore. Each square mile contains in round numbers 27,000,000 square feet. The additional weight therefore corresponds to 136,000,000,000 tons." The existence of a precipitous shore line indicates, in his opinion, the comparative weakness of the crust along that coast. It has yielded on one side to pressure thrusting it upwards above the sea level, and on the other side to the pressure of water forcing it downwards. Although the existing shore line may not coincide with the line of yielding, it may be taken for granted that not far from every precipitous shore line lies a line of weakness where the crust has given way in the past, and may give way again.

Mr. Proctor's hypothesis may, at least be, accepted as a partial explanation of the phenomena of which this paper treats. We have still the fact facing us, that the volcanic power which is born of the earth, and which we call earthquakes, is over exerting itself. We see it in the gradual upraising of that crust which is going on in many parts of the world, and the equally gradual sinking of other parts. These motions do not vary suddenly, as if they were subject to the variations of atmosphere. It is evidently an active and continuous force that is at work. Mr. Proctor, however, as we have said, has increased our knowledge of nature's law, and work, or directed our thoughts into new channels. The subject should be full of interest to us in Australia, and especially to our friends in New Zealand, where earthquakes, although not very violent, are frequent.

Though we may dread earthquakes and volcanic eruptions, they are not to be despised, for they tend to keep a portion of the earth's crust above water. The degrading and levelling processes that are continually operating would, in the course of ages, reduce the face of the earth to a dead level, were it not for the counteracting agencies of the earthquakes and volcano-

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THE Steamship "AIRLIE," Captain Ellis, will be despatched for the above Ports, on WEDNESDAY, the 30th instant, at 4 p.m. For Freight or Passage, apply to RUSSELL & Co., Agents. Hongkong, 17th July, 1890. [1060]

AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN LLOYD'S STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

STEAM FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG, COLOMBO, and BOMBAY, having connection with Company's Mail Steamers to ADEN, SUEZ, PORT SAID, TRIESTE, VENICE and Fiume.

THE Steamship MELPOMENE. Captain G. Wallischewski, will be despatched as above on the 26th instant, at NOON, taking Cargo at through rates to CALCUTTA, MADRAS, PERMAN GULF, BLACK SEA, LEVANT, and ADRIATIC PORTS. Cargo will not be received on board after 3 p.m. prior to date of sailing. For further information as to Passage and Freight, apply to DAVID SASSOON, SONS & Co., Agents. Hongkong, 17th July, 1890. [1059]

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THE British Steamship "PARTHIA," 3,167 Tons Register, Captain J. Paxton, will be despatched for VANCOUVER, B.C., and SAN FRANCISCO, via INLAND SEA, KORE and YOKOHAMA, on THURSDAY, the 24th July, at NOON. To be followed by the S.S. "SUSSEX" 7th August; a Steamer 21st August; "BATAVIA" 4th Sept.; "STRAITS OF BELLE ISLE" 18th Sept.; and "ABYSSINIA" 2nd October. Connection will be made at Yokohama with Steamers from Japan Ports, and at Vancouver with Pacific Coast Ports, by the regular Steamers of the Pacific Coast Steamship Company and other Steamers. Through Passage Tickets granted to England, France, and Germany, by all trans-Atlantic lines of Steamers. First-class Fares granted as follows:—To Vancouver and Victoria, (Mex.) \$100.00 To San Francisco, 100.00 To Montreal, New York, &c., 100.00 To Liverpool, 175.00 To London, 200.00 To other European Ports at proportionate rates. Consular Invoices to accompany Cargo destined to Ports in the United States, should be sent to the Company's Offices, addressed to Mr. D. E. BROWN, District Freight Agent, Vancouver, B.C. Freight will be received on board until 4 p.m. on the 23rd July. All Parcels must be sent to our Office and should be marked to address in full; and the same will be received by us until 5 p.m. the day previous to sailing. For information as to Passage or Freight, apply to ADAMSON, BELL & Co., Agents. Hongkong, 16th July, 1890. [11]

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